

many opportunities to join the people of Wise County for events, festivals, and meetings, and I am proud to be a part of this sesquicentennial celebration and look forward to sharing in many more events in the coming years.●

RECOGNIZING THE CITY OF GALAX CENTENNIAL

● Mr. ALLEN. Mr. President, I am pleased to announce the centennial anniversary of the historic city of Galax. The centennial celebration created and will continue to create community awareness of opportunities for the preservation of Galax's rich heritage. In addition, this event will foster pride in Galax's educational, cultural, social, and economic resources and will encourage the brainstorming of ways to ensure a bright future for the city of Galax.

Throughout the year, the city of Galax has come up with exciting ways to celebrate its centennial. July was Freedom Celebration Month in Galax which included a Fourth of July parade and the Virginia State Barbeque Championship. August is Musical Heritage Celebration Month and will include the Annual Old Fiddler's Convention, as well as the Annual Championship Rodeo. September is Free Enterprise, Agriculture and Industry Month and will feature a play on the history of the city of Galax, as well as events with authors Sharyn McCrumb and Robert Chappell.

This centennial celebration of the city of Galax is a great way to remember its history, appreciate its current state, and look forward to its bright future. Over the years I have enjoyed many opportunities to join the people of the city of Galax for events, festivals, and meetings, and I am proud to be a part of this centennial celebration and look forward to sharing in many more events in the coming years.●

RECOGNIZING PLANTERS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

● Mr. ALLEN. Mr. President, I am pleased to acknowledge the 100th anniversary of the Planters Company which has had a fruitful working relationship with Suffolk County over the past century and has one of its major production facilities located there. To celebrate, Planters has embarked on a 4-month, cross-country tour visiting landmarks in Planters' history. Over the past century Planters has consistently delivered a variety of fresh-tasting nuts and has also developed an American icon in the internationally famous Mr. Peanut.

On Tuesday, June 13, 2006 Planters NUTmobile and Centennial Display Tour made a stop in Suffolk, VA. Visitors got the opportunity to meet and interact with Mr. Peanut, sample fresh roasted peanuts, view Planters and Mr. Peanut collectibles from the past century, and put themselves in moments

and events throughout Planters and American history using green screen technology.

Over the past century Planters' Suffolk facility has enjoyed a wonderful relationship with the city of Suffolk. The Planters Suffolk facility produces a variety of nut products. Planters has employed thousands of Virginians over the years, and many more have enjoyed and benefited from both its products and its reputation in the Suffolk community. Planters has been a model for the type of relationship that should exist between communities and businesses over the past century, and we look forward to working with them for the next 100 years.●

TRIBUTE TO RALPH CONTE

● Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, today I wish to acknowledge the retirement and to honor the service of a fellow Virginian, a true patriot, and a career civil servant of the Department of Defense who has given 39 years of dedicated military and civilian service to our country. Mr. Ralph Conte was born in Ponza, Italy, in 1940. He immigrated to the United States in January 1956 whereupon he studied engineering at New York University. He was commissioned as an Air Force officer through OTS in June 1967, and his first assignment was at Aviano Air Base, Italy. His military career included serving in Vietnam as a member of the premier combat engineering unit in the Air Force, known as RED HORSE. He further served at Kunsan Air Base in Korea and at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, OH. In 1975 he separated from active duty and continued service to his country as a civilian manager at Air Force Logistics Command and a NATO program manager at Ramstein Air Base, Germany. He finally settled in Virginia in June 1986, working for the Air National Guard eventually as the chief of programs.

I believe everyone in the Air National Guard will attest that very few individuals have had a greater positive impact on providing the finest facilities and installations for the Air National Guard to accomplish their missions. During his tenure at the Air National Guard, Mr. Conte was directly responsible for planning and programming facility and real property requirements worth over \$7 billion to support 177 Guard locations throughout the 50 States, 3 territories, and the District of Columbia. His leadership, outstanding technical expertise, and unlimited energy have created a blueprint for success for which generations of Air National Guardsmen will reap the benefits. I offer sincere appreciation and thanks for his service, and wish him and his family the best in retirement.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to

the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:40 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 467. Concurrent resolution providing for a conditional adjournment of the House of Representatives and a conditional adjournment or recess of the Senate.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

The message also announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

S. 250. An act to amend the Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Act of 1998 to improve the Act.

S. 3693. An act to make technical corrections to the Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005.

S. 3741. An act to provide funding authority to facilitate the evacuation of persons from Lebanon, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3682. An act to redesignate the Mason Neck National Wildlife Refuge in Virginia as the Elizabeth Hartwell Mason Neck National Wildlife Refuge.

H.R. 5683. An act to preserve the Mt. Soledad Veterans Memorial in San Diego, California, by providing for the immediate acquisition of the memorial by the United States.

H.R. 5877. An act to amend the Iran and Libya Sanctions Act of 1996 to extend the authorities provided in such Act until September 29, 2006.

The enrolled bills were subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

ENROLLED BILLS PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on today, August 2, 2006, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bills:

S. 250. An act to amend the Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Act of 1998 to improve the Act.

S. 3693. An act to make technical corrections to the Violence Against Women Act and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005.

S. 3741. An act to provide funding authority to facilitate the evacuation of persons from Lebanon, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with

accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-7733. A communication from the Director, Strategic Human Resources Policy Division, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Implementation of Title II of the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002—Notification & Training" (RIN3206-AK38) received on July 25, 2006; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-7734. A communication from the Acting Senior Procurement Executive, Office of the Chief Acquisition Officer, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Acquisition Regulation; Federal Acquisition Circular 2005-10" (FAC2005-10) received on July 26, 2006; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-7735. A communication from the District of Columbia Auditor, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Letter Report: Certification of the Sufficiency of the Washington Convention Center Authority's Projected Revenues and Excess Reserve to Meet Projected Operating and Debt Service Expenditures and Reserve Requirements for Fiscal Year 2007"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-7736. A communication from the Director, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on the Mid-Session Review of the Budget of the U.S. Government for Fiscal Year 2007 received on July 26, 2006; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-7737. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department of Transportation Office of Inspector General Semi-annual Report for the period October 1, 2005 through March 31, 2006; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-7738. A communication from the Chairman, National Transportation Safety Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the National Transportation Safety Board's compliance with the Federal Manager's Financial Integrity Act; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-7739. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Department of Health and Human Services/National Institute of Health, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "NIH Training Grants" (RIN0925-AA28) received on July 26, 2006; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-7740. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Employee Benefits Security Administration, Department of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Electronic Filing of Annual Reports" (RIN1210-AB04) received on July 21, 2006; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-7741. A communication from the White House Liaison, Department of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of action on a nomination for the position of General Counsel received on July 26, 2006; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-7742. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the need to lift the cap on funding available through the Repatriation program, received on July 24, 2006; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-7743. A communication from the Special Assistant to the Secretary, White House Liaison, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, (3) reports relative to vacancy announcements within the Department, received on July 26, 2006; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-7744. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Report to Congress on Collaborative Measures to Reduce the Risks of a Launch of Russian Nuclear Weapons"; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7745. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the quarterly report detailing the account balance in the Defense Cooperation Account and the personal property contributed for the quarter ending June 30, 2006, received on July 28, 2006; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7746. A communication from the Regulatory Specialist, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Assessment of Fees" (RIN1557-AC96) received on July 27, 2006; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-7747. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report entitled "Report to the Congress on the Refugee Resettlement Program" covering the period from October 1, 2003 to September 30, 2004; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-7748. A communication from the Director, Regulations & Rulings Division, Alcohol & Tobacco Tax & Trade Bureau, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Major Food Allergen Labeling for Wines, Distilled Spirits, and Malt Beverages" ((RIN1513-AB08) (T.D.TTB-53)) received on July 31, 2006; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-7749. A communication from the Rules Administrator, Office of General Counsel, Federal Bureau of Prisons, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Classification and Program Review" (RIN1120-AB32) received on August 1, 2006; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-7750. A communication from the Director, Office of National Drug Control Policy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report entitled "Fiscal Year 2005 Accounting of Drug Control Funds"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-7751. A communication from the Chief of the Publication and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Coordinated Issue: Claim Revenue under a Long-Term Contract" (460.02-04) received on July 31, 2006; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-7752. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Employer Comparable Contributions to Health Savings Accounts Under Section 4980G" ((RIN1545-BE30) (TD9277)) received on July 31, 2006; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-7753. A communication from the Chief of Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Weighted Average Interest Rate Update" (Notice 2006-66) received on July 31, 2006; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-7754. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Medicare Program; Prospective Payment System

and Consolidated Billing for Skilled Nursing Facilities-Update-" (RIN0938-AM46) received on July 31, 2006; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-7755. A communication from the Director, Executive Services Staff, Social Security Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a vacancy in the position of Deputy Commissioner of Social Security, Social Security Administration, received on August 1, 2006; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-7756. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "State Children's Health Insurance Program; Final Allotments to States, the District of Columbia, and U.S. Territories and Commonwealths for Fiscal Year 2007" (RIN0938-ZA17) received on July 31, 2006; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-7757. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report to Congress on the "Implementation of State Policies and Procedures for Suspected Medical Neglect Relating to Disabled Infants with Life-Threatening Conditions" received on August 1, 2006; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-7758. A communication from the Deputy Director of Communications and Legislative Affairs, U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to employment programs for women and minorities as well as information on the hiring of people with disabilities in the Federal Government, received on August 1, 2006; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Ms. COLLINS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 2590. A bill to require full disclosure of all entities and organizations receiving Federal funds.

By Ms. SNOWE, from the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, without amendment:

S. 3778. An original bill to reauthorize and improve the Small Business Act and the Small Business Act of 1958, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. STEVENS for the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

*Charles D. Nottingham, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Surface Transportation Board for a term expiring December 31, 2010.

*Robert L. Sumwalt III, of South Carolina, to be a Member of the National Transportation Safety Board for the remainder of the term expiring December 31, 2006.

*Robert L. Sumwalt III, of South Carolina, to be a Member of the National Transportation Safety Board for a term expiring December 31, 2011.

*Sean T. Connaughton, of Virginia, to be Administrator of the Maritime Administration.

*Jay M. Cohen, of New York, to be Under Secretary for Science and Technology, Department of Homeland Security.